

Baronian Xippas

Press release

Zoë Paul

Full Moon Rising
2 rue Isidore Verheyden

10.01 - 29.02.2020

Opening

Thursday 09.01.2020
from 6 - 9 pm

Zoë Paul

Full Moon Rising

Baronian Xippas is pleased to present a solo exhibition of new works by Zoë Paul.

Born in 1987 in London to South African parents, Zoë Paul grew up between the Greek island of Kythira and Oxford in the United Kingdom. The artist uses various techniques and timeless materials such as ceramics, bronze, textiles and drawing. Her work explores our relationship to tradition and craft, and to the notions of community and domestic space in the digital age.

Titled *Full Moon Rising*, the exhibition at the gallery brings together figurative bronze sculptures and abstract weavings alongside one of her signature beaded curtains. The show opens on the eve of the first full moon of January 10th 2020, a lunar eclipse in Capricorn, it represents the coming together of old and new. The circular pattern of the eclipse is woven with plastic and hand spun wool into the rusty grills of old stone sifting equipment collected from the volcanic island of Gyalí. The island is now an industrial site in the Aegean Sea, its white pumice sands are stained red with rust and chemicals.

Bronze, pregnant figures lie like nude sunbathers. They are cast from clay molds that the artist made while preparing for her recent show at La Loge in Brussels. These molds were used to develop the large goat manure and resin figures that inhabited the basement of the masonic temple for the duration of that exhibition. The statues represent chthonic Greek goddesses of both the underworld and rebirth and their fragile clay bodies are now cast into immortality.

Full Moon Rising also includes one of Zoë Paul's earliest beaded curtains made from clay collected from the island she grew up on in Greece. The work is titled *Juliette* in tribute to the renowned herbalist Juliette de Bairacli Levy (1912-2009), who lived on the same beach that the clay was taken from. The figure represented on the curtain is inspired by a small Indian miniature, its mouth contorted in silent sound, eclipsed by the shadows it casts on the wall behind it.

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Zoë Paul (b. 1987, London, UK) lives and works in Athens, Greece. After receiving her undergraduate degree at Camberwell College of Art, she completed her MA in Sculpture at the Royal College of Art, London. Past projects and exhibitions include *La Perma-Perla Kraal Emporium*,

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a collaborative work that invites visitors to sit around a long table and make clay beads (SPIKE Island, Bristol, 2018 and The Breeder, Athens, 2017); *Equilibrists*, organized by the New Museum, New York and the DESTE Foundation, Athens in collaboration with the Benaki Museum, Athens; *Solitude and Village*, an exhibition exploring social relations and indebtedness in the village (The Breeder, Athens, 2016), and Unorthodox (Jewish Museum, New York, 2015). In 2019, she had a solo exhibition at La Loge, Brussels. Currently, her work is presented at the Museum of Modern Art in New York in the context of The Modern Window, a series of site-specific installations by contemporary artists commissioned by MoMa.